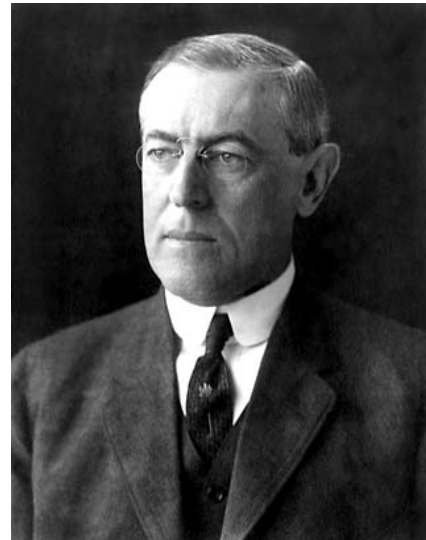


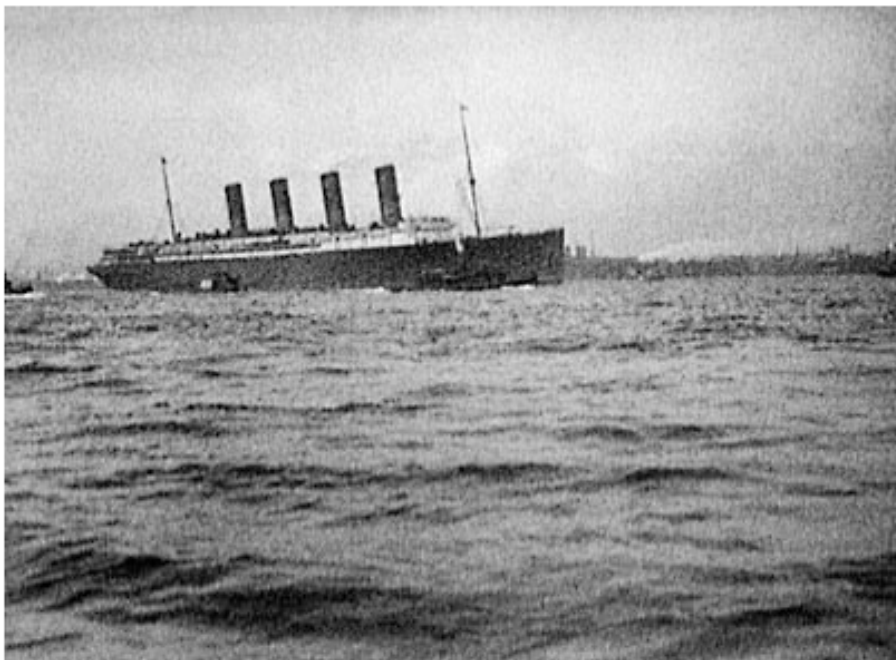
## ☞ Woodrow Wilson: quote on entering World War I

"The world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the tested foundations of [political liberty](#). We have no selfish ends to serve. We desire no conquest, no dominion. We seek no indemnities for ourselves, no material compensation for the sacrifices we shall freely make."

(War message, April 2, 1917)



## 📷 Lusitania



The British ocean liner *Lusitania* was sunk by a German U-boat in 1915, killing more than 1,000 people including 128 Americans. The incident indirectly pushed the United States into World War I.

[Library of Congress]

# The United States Enters WWI

## 📷 Woodrow Wilson asks for declaration of war



President Woodrow Wilson calls on Congress for a declaration of war against Germany on April 2, 1917 in response to the continued German U-boat attacks on American ships. In his speech before Congress, Wilson proclaimed that "The world must be made safe for democracy."

[National Archives]

# How did the United States become involved in World War I?

- In the beginning, President Woodrow Wilson declared U.S. neutrality
- The U.S. would trade goods with both sides
- The war at sea - German U-boats sank U.S. ships in the Atlantic
- The sinking of the Lusitania
- The Sussex Pledge
- "Armed neutrality"
- Zimmermann note
- The United States declared war on April 2, 1917 -  
the U.S. entered World War I